(b) if so, the names of members of the Board; and

(c) the other details in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES): (a) to (c) Based on the recommendations made by the Group of Ministers on reforming the National Security System, the Government has set up a Defence Procurement Board, headed by the Defence Secretary for procurement of weapons, equipment and weapon systems for the Services. Other members of the Defence Procurement Board are Secretary, Defence Production and Supplies, Secretary, Defence Research and Development, Secretary, Defence (Finance), Chief of Integrated Defence Staff of Chairman, COSC (CISC), Vice Chief of Army Staff, Vice Chief of Air Staff, Vice Chief of Naval Staff and Special Secretary (Acquisition). Financial Adviser (Acquisition) is the Member Secretary of the Defence Procurement Board. All activities related to Acquisition on the capital account in the Department of Defence have been entrusted to the Defence Procurement Board.

Forming the Andaman and Nicobar Command

1679. SHRI NANA DESHMUKH: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have decided to form the Andaman and Nicobar Command;

(b) if so, what are the details in this regard; and

(c) by when it would come into existence?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE(SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES): (a) to (c) Government have issued orders on 1.10.2001 for setting up of Andman and Nicobar unified Command by placing all force components of the three Services and Cost Guard located in Andaman and Nicobar Islands under the operational command of C-in-C, Andaman and Nicobar Command. The Command has become operational on 8.10.2001.

Defence deals which can be investigated for corruption

†1680. SHRI BA K VI BAIRAGI: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have identified defence deals wherein investigation can be done under the suspicion of corruption;

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.